

November 15, 2019

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq. Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Section 63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom, LLC

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Enclosed is a Section 63.71 discontinuance application of TDS Metrocom, LLC (FRN: 3767639).

The application seeks Commission approval for the discontinuance of retail voice, data and video services that are branded Merrimac Communications to 10 residential customers in the Prairie du Sac and Sauk City, Wisconsin market areas. The discontinuance will occur on December 31, 2019. TDS Metrocom acquired substantially all of the assets of Merrimac Communications<sup>1</sup>, including its retail customers and cable franchise. TDS Metrocom has permission to use the Merrimac Communications name until all customers are removed from the legacy network.

Please direct questions concerning this filing to me at the contact information below.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer R. Heise

Manager Regulatory Compliance

TDS Metrocom, LLC

525 Junction Road

Madison, WI 53717

(608) 664-4148

jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com

Enclosure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Domestic Section 214 Authorization Granted for the Acquisition of Assets of Merrimac Communications, Ltd. By TDS Metrocom, LLC, Public Notice DA 18-60, WC Docket No. 17-343 (WCB Jan. 22, 2018).

# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

	)	
In the Matter of	)	
Section 63.71 Application of	)	WC Docket No
TDS Metrocom, LLC	)	
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of	)	
the Communications Act of 1934,	)	
To Discontinue Services	)	

### SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF TDS METROCOM, LLC

TDS Metrocom, LLC ("Applicant") seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §214(a) and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of all Voice, Data and Video services to 10 residential customers at certain addresses in the Prairie du Sac and Sauk City, Wisconsin Market Areas. This action is a result of TDS Metrocom efforts to decommission Merrimac's legacy network. The Applicant provides the following information pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules:

- Name and Address of the Carrier: TDS Metrocom, LLC, 525 Junction Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53717.
- 2. <u>Date of Planned Service Discontinuance</u>: Applicant plans to discontinue the affected services on December 31, 2019. Applicant understands that this Application will be granted automatically on the 31<sup>st</sup> day after public notice of its filing unless the Commission notifies Applicant to the contrary.
- 3. <u>Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected:</u> Applicant proposes to discontinue the affected services to certain customers in the Prairie du Sac and Sauk City, Wisconsin market areas.
- 4. <u>Description of Service Affected:</u> The services to be affected are all voice, data and video services. Voice service (provided via VoIP) includes local, long distance, international and toll-free calling. Data includes Internet of all speeds (from 5mb to 100mb). Video/TV service includes all packages (basic cable, expanded basic cable, digital family, digital sports, digital movies and premium channels.)
- 5. <u>Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers:</u> Applicant mailed a written notification of the planned discontinuance to the impacted customers utilizing the

services in accordance with Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules. Customer notifications were mailed via first-class U.S. Postal mail on November 14, 2019. Selected sample copies of the notifications are attached to this application.

- 6. <u>Regulatory Classification of Carrier:</u> Applicant is considered non-dominant with respect to the services to be discontinued.
- 7. <u>Other Information:</u> In accordance with Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules, a copy of this application is being mailed concurrently with its filing to the Governor of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission and the Special Assistant for Telecommunications to the Secretary of Defense. Please direct questions regarding this application to the undersigned.
- 8. <u>Circumstances of Discontinuance:</u> The Affected Services are provided to the customer's locations via a legacy network being decommissioned. Affected customers will have sufficient time to make arrangements to obtain service from another service provider.

<u>Conclusion:</u> The public convenience and necessity will not be adversely affected by the discontinuance of the services described herein. Advance notice has been provided to all affected customers, giving them ample time to arrange for substitute services readily available from other providers. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Section 63.71 application.<sup>2</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer R. Heise

Regulatory Compliance Manager

TDS Metrocom, LLC

525 Junction Road

Madison, WI 53717

(608)664-4148

jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This Application does not fall within the scope of 47 C.F.R. §63.71(a)(6).

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Jennifer R. Heise, do hereby certify that on this 15th day of November 2019, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom, LLC via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Secretary of Defense Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications The Pentagon Washington, DC 20301

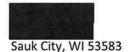
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854

Office of the Governor Madison Office 115 East, State Capital Madison, WI 53702

Jennifer R. Heise

## Merrimac Communications 327 Palisade St. Merrimac, WI 53561

November 14, 2019



Hello,

ACTION REQUIRED: MERRIMAC COMMUNICATIONS PHONE, INTERNET, AND, TV SERVICES DISCONTINUED DEC. 31, 2019!

TDS Metrocom acquired all of the telecommunications assets of Merrimac Communications, effective January 22, 2018\*. We regret to inform you the phone, Internet, and TV service that you are receiving from Merrimac Communications will be discontinued effective Dec. 31, 2019.

The areas impacted by the Merrimac Communications service discontinuance are: Sauk City and Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin.

Please note that this discontinuance only applies to this location. If you have multiple locations, they will not be impacted.

This discontinuance is subject to approval of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If approval is received, the discontinuance by TDS will take place on **Dec. 31, 2019.** 

If you wish to keep your current phone number, you must choose a different service provider prior to Dec. 31, 2019.

#### **Other Service Providers in Your Area**

Below is a summary of providers with alternative service offerings in your area:

Frontier:

www.frontierbundles.com 1-877-361-2619

Charter:

www.spectrum.com 1-833-267-6094

Thank you for being a Merrimac customer. We have valued your business.

The Merrimac Team

\* Domestic Section 214 Authorization Granted for the Acquisition of Assets of Merrimac Communications, Ltd. By TDS Metrocom, LLC, Public Notice DA 18-60, WC Docket No. 17-343 (WCB Jan. 22, 2018). (over)

#### **Objecting to Discontinuance of Service**

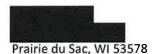
The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected.

If you wish to object, you should file your comments with the FCC as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of TDS Metrocom, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Please contact Merrimac Communications at 608-493-9470 for additional information.

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